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mentioned above are studied while in the fourth year organic chemistry and the main organic compounds are taken up. 372[c]

In natural science the first year is devoted to a general survey of the study of man, animals, plants, and geology. In the second year, botany and zoology are studied in greater detail, together with the classification of animals and plants. The third year is given to an extensive course in hygiene and another in geology, including the types of volcanic and sedimentary rocks, the influence of air, glaciers, rain and sea water, and living beings, the movement of the soil and earthquakes, volcanoes, geological strata and fossils, the geological ages, and finally, applications of geology to mining, public works, agriculture, and hygiene. The fourth year is given to a study of animal and plant anatomy and physiology.

Beginning with the fourth primary grade, the courses in science and mathematics may be given in either Arabic or French; schools have the option of teaching these subjects in either language and presumably in English as well.

Physical Education, Music, Drawing, Manual Arts

In physical education, the usual program for boys and girls in the primary and higher primary schools includes marching and running exercises, Swedish and gymnastic exercises, group games, ball games, dances, and corrective exercises. 369 372[c]

Music consists of songs in Arabic and the foreign language, elements of musical notation and reading, the scales and the keys, culminating in the higher primary school in songs for one voice or in group songs with parts; recorded classical music with explanations by the teacher, the history of music and stories of the lives of famous composers, information on types of instrumental and vocal music, and types of musical instruments: string, brass, woodwind, and percussion instruments. With the training and equipment of the average Lebanese teacher it is doubtful if this program can be applied—indeed, it is the exceptional teacher that can apply it even in part.

Drawing in the primary school includes the drawing of geometrical figures, objects, animals, flowers, and some wooden or clay models. In the higher primary, three types of drawing are mentioned: artistic, decorative, and geometrical. The student is to be directed to whichever type he likes best.

The course in manual arts follows the traditional lines of paper-folding, cutting and pasting, and work in straw and clay. The girls learn to em-

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broider, knit, weave a small rug, and do some needlework. Boys in the villages may take a course in agriculture and girls a course in home economics and elements of home nursing. The course in agriculture covers soils, irrigation, the raising of cereals, vegetables, and trees, and the care of animals. Theoretical and practical work are provided for. However, since the time allotted for drawing, manual arts, and agriculture combined is only two hours a week, and since very few if any schools have facilities for agriculture, the course is more an expression of a hope than a practical reality.

Description of Primary Schools

Of 23 government primary and higher primary schools in Lebanon visited by the American Council Commission, 10 were housed in buildings belonging to the government, 11 were in rented buildings, and 2 had been contributed by individuals or communities. Some of the government buildings, mostly those in the cities, had been built under the Ottoman regime, while others were built during the French mandate regime. In two instances in northern Lebanon modern buildings were being erected by the government. Rented buildings and some of the government buildings in the villages left much to be desired, their rooms being too small for the classes, which often were large.

The schools were poorly equipped. A few maps and charts were found in some schools, and one school had a very small laboratory. Libraries were noticed in two schools; these two libraries were being developed through the efforts of the principals and contributions from the pupils, the government sending a few books occasionally. Desks were of the fixed-seat variety designed to accommodate from two to four pupils. Often, however, they were used by from three to six or even more pupils. Most of the furniture showed signs of long use. Playing space was small, especially where the buildings are rented.

The school year of nine months begins about October 1 and lasts until the end of June. The school day consists of a morning session from 8 A.M. to 12:15 P.M., and an afternoon session from 2 to 4 P.M. Classes usually run in half-hour units.

THE TEACHERS

Schools in the cities are largely staffed with graduates of the 2 teachers colleges of Beirut—1 college exclusively for men and 1 for women. Some of the teachers—a small number—have passed the teachers qualifying examination. In the smaller towns and villages of the mountains, however,